

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HARUO MACHIDA) : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: NYA) : Group Art Unit: NYA
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: NETWORK SYSTEM,)
INFORMATION UNIT,)
INFORMATION PROCESSING)
METHOD, AND CONTROL)
PROGRAM) : December 19, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-56, 58-61, and 63-72 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

1. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with client units, comprising:

unit managing means for managing a setup status of driver information for peripheral devices connected to the client units at the client units; and transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send the driver information to the client units based on the setup status.

2. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

selection indicating means for indicating selection of a second plurality of client units on which to install driver information from among a first plurality of client units; and determining means for determining client units on which to install driver information, based on the setup information, from the second plurality of client units whose selection is indicated by said selection indicating means, wherein said transmission controlling means controls operations to send the driver information to the client units determined by said determining means.

3. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 1, wherein the setup status includes identification information for the driver information incorporated within the client units, and

said transmission controlling means controls transmission operations to send the driver information to one or more client units if driver information indicated by the identification information for the driver information is not in the one or more client units.

4. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 2, wherein the setup status is collected by said information processing unit communicating with the client units.

6. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with client units, comprising:

a device managing step of managing a setup status of driver information for peripheral devices connected to the client units at the client units; and
a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send the driver information to the client units based on the setup status.

7. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 6, further comprising:

a selection indicating step to indicate selection of a second plurality of client units on which to install driver information from among a first plurality of client units; and
a determining step of determining client units on which to install driver information, based on the setup information, from among the second plurality of client units whose selection is indicated in said selection indicating step,
wherein said transmission controlling step controls operations to send the driver information to the client units determined in said determining step.

8. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 6,

wherein

the setup status includes identification information for the driver information incorporated within the client units, and

said transmission controlling step controls transmission operations to send the driver information to one or more client units if driver information indicated by the identification information of the driver information is not in the one or more client units.

Information disclosed under
35 U.S.C. 119(e)

9. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 6,

wherein setup status is collected by the information processing unit communicating with the client units.

11. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed at an information processing unit in communication with client units, wherein the information processing method comprises:

a unit managing step of managing a setup status of driver information for peripheral devices connected to the client units at the client units; and

a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send the driver information to the client units based on the setup status.

12. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 11, wherein the method further comprises:

a selection indicating step of indicating selection of a second plurality of client units on which to install driver information from among a first plurality of client units; and

a determining step of determining client units on which to install driver information, based on the setup information, from the second plurality of client units whose selection is indicated in the selection indicating step, and

wherein the information processing unit is operated such that the transmission controlling step controls operations to send the driver information to the client units determined in the determining step.

13. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 11, wherein the setup status includes identification information for the driver information incorporated within the client units, and

the information processing unit is operated such that the transmission controlling step controls transmission operations to send the driver information to one or more client units if driver information indicated by the identification information for the driver information is not in the one or more client units.

14. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 11, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that the setup status is collected by the information processing unit communicating with the client units.

15. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 12, wherein

the information processing unit is operated such that said determining step determines a third plurality of client units on which install operations are to be performed.

16. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with client units, comprising:

determining means for determining a plurality of client units on which to install driver information; and

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to distribute driver information for controlling peripheral devices connected to the plurality of client units to the plurality of clients determined by said determining means.

17. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 16, wherein the driver information is for a printer driver and includes a test print instruction for a printer on which the driver information is to be set up.

18. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 16, wherein the driver information is set up based on a setup instruction.

19. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 16, further comprising selecting means for manually selecting client units, wherein said determining means determines the client units selected by said selecting means.

20. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with a plurality of client units, comprising:

 a determining step of determining a plurality of client units on which to install driver information; and

 a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to distribute driver information for controlling peripheral devices connected to the plurality of client units to the plurality of clients determined in said determining step.

21. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the driver information is for a printer driver and includes a test print instruction for a printer on which the driver information is to be set up.

22. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 20, wherein the client units set up with the driver information based on a setup instruction.

23. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 20, further comprising a selecting step of manually selecting client units, wherein said determining step determines the client units selected in said selecting step.

24. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with a plurality of client units, wherein the information processing method

comprises:

 a determining step of determining a plurality of clients on which to install driver information; and

 a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to distribute driver information for controlling peripheral devices connected to the plurality of client units to the plurality of clients determined in said determining step.

25. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the driver information is for a printer driver and includes a test print instruction for a printer on which the driver information is to be set up.

26. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that the client units are set up with the driver information based on a setup instruction.

27. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the information processing unit is caused to perform a selecting step of manually selecting client units, and the information processing unit is operated such that said determining step determines the client units selected in said selecting step.

28. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, comprising:

recognizing means for recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from the server unit; and

program managing means for installing on client units driver information for controlling the peripheral devices, in response to recognition of a setup instruction without requesting the server unit for a setup instruction.

29. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means controls the client units so that the client units register identification information for peripheral devices in association with the driver information.

30. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means controls an OS so that the OS recognizes identification information for peripheral devices in association with the driver information via an application programming interface of the OS installed on a client unit.

31. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means compares identification information of a driver indicated by a setup instruction with identification information of existing drivers stored in the client units, and, if the identification information of the driver indicated by the setup instruction does not match the identification information of the existing drivers, stores the driver indicated by the setup instruction in the client units.

32. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28,

wherein said program managing means updates the driver information in the client units to driver information indicated by the setup instruction, if information representing a version of existing drivers stored in the client units is newer than information representing a driver version indicated by the setup instruction.

33. (Amended) An information processing method for an information

processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, comprising:

 a recognizing step of recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from the server unit; and

 a program managing step of installing on client units driver information for controlling the peripheral devices in response to recognition of a setup instruction without requesting the server unit for a setup instruction.

34. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33,

wherein said program managing step controls the client units so that the client units register identification information for peripheral devices in association with the driver information.

35. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33,

wherein said program managing step controls an OS so that the OS recognizes identification information for peripheral devices in association with the driver information via an application programming interface of the OS installed on the client unit.

36. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein said program managing step compares identification information of a driver indicated by the setup instruction with identification information of existing drivers stored in the client units, and, if the identification information of the driver indicated by the setup instruction does not match the identification information of the existing drivers, stores the driver indicated by the setup instruction in the client units.

37. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein said program managing step updates the driver information in the client units to driver information indicated by the setup instruction, if information representing a version of existing drivers stored in the client units is newer than information representing a driver version indicated by the setup instruction.

38. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, wherein the information processing method comprises:

 a recognizing step of recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from the server unit; and

 a program managing step of installing on client units driver information for controlling the peripheral devices, in response to recognition of a setup instruction without requesting the server unit for a setup instruction.

39. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step controls client units so that the client units register identification information for peripheral devices in association with the driver information.

40. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step controls an OS so that the OS recognizes identification information for peripheral devices in association with the driver information via an application programming interface of the OS installed on the client unit.

41. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step compares identification information of a driver indicated by the setup instruction with identification information of existing drivers stored in the client units, and, if the identification information of the driver indicated by the setup instruction does not match the identification information of the existing drivers, stores the driver indicated by the setup instruction in the client units.

42. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step updates the driver information in the client units to driver information indicated by the setup instruction, if information representing a version of existing drivers stored in the client units is newer than information representing a driver version indicated by the setup instruction.

43. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, comprising:

program managing means for setting up drivers based on setup instructions from the server unit to set up drivers for the peripheral devices,

wherein instructions are generated in response to completion of the set up to have the peripheral devices execute test printing to check if the set up has been completed normally.

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44. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 43, wherein said program managing means invokes installing means of an OS via an application programming interface of the OS installed on a client unit, and the installing means of the OS invoked via the application programming interface introduces driver information into the client unit.

45. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 43 or 44, wherein said program managing means is activated in response to a command from the server unit.

46. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 45, wherein the command from the server unit is described in Simple Object Access Protocol standards.

47. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with a server unit and peripheral devices, comprising:

 a program managing step of setting up drivers based on instructions from the server unit to set up drivers for the peripheral devices; and

 an instruction generation step of generating instructions, in response to completion of the set up, to have the peripheral devices execute test printing to check if the set up has been completed normally.

48. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 47, wherein said program managing step invokes an installing step of an OS via an application programming interface of the OS installed on a client unit, and the installing step of the OS invoked via the application programming interface introduces driver information into the client unit.

49. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 47 or 48, wherein said program managing step is started in response to a command from the server unit.

50. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 49, wherein the command from the server unit is described in Simple Object Access Protocol standards.

51. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with a server unit and peripheral devices, wherein the information processing method comprises:

a program managing step of setting up drivers based on instructions from the server unit to set up drivers for the peripheral devices; and

an instruction generation step of generating instructions, in response to completion of the set up, to have the peripheral devices execute test printing to check if the set up has been completed normally.

52. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 51, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that said program managing step invokes an installing step of an OS via an application programming interface of the OS installed on a client unit, and the installing step of the OS invoked via the application programming interface introduces driver information into the client unit.

53. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 51 or 52, wherein said program managing step is performed in response to a command from the server unit.

54. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 53, wherein the command from the server unit is described in Simple Object Access Protocol standards.

55. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with one or more client units, comprising:

determining means for determining client units on which a driver is to be set up; and

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send the client units an instruction to set up a driver for the client units and an instruction to have the client units execute test printing to check if the driver set up for the client units has been completed normally.

56. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 55,

wherein

said information processing unit communicates with a plurality of client units, and

said transmission controlling means controls transmission operations to send the plurality of client units an instruction to install driver information as well as the test print instruction.

58. (Amended) The information processing unit according to one of claims 55 to 57, wherein a test print request source is printed in the test printing.

59. (Amended) The information processing unit according to one of claims 55 to 57, wherein a name of a print server used in executing the test printing is printed in the test

printing.

60. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with one or more client units, comprising:

a determining step of determining client units on which a driver is to be set up;

and

a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send the client units an instruction to set up a driver for the client units and an instruction to have the client units execute test printing to check if the driver set up for the client units has been completed normally.

61. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 60,

wherein

the information processing unit communicates with a plurality of client units,

and

said transmission controlling step comprises controlling transmission operations to send the plurality of client units an instruction to install driver information as well as the test print instruction.

63. (Amended) The information processing method according to one of claims 60 to 62, wherein a test print request source is printed in the test printing.

64. (Amended) The information processing method according to one of claims 60 to 62, wherein a name of a server used in executing the test printing is printed in the test printing.

65. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with one or more client units, wherein the information processing method comprises:

a determining step of determining client units on which a driver is to be set up; and

a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send the client units an instruction to set up a driver for the client units and an instruction to have the client units execute test printing to check if the driver set up for the client units has been completed normally.

66. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 65, wherein the information processing unit communicates with a plurality of client units, and said transmission controlling step controls transmission operations to send the plurality of client units an instruction to install driver information as well as the test printing instruction.

67. (Amended) The computer program product according to claim 65, wherein the method further comprises a selecting step of manually selecting client

units, and

the information processing unit is operated such that said determining step determines the client units manually selected in said selecting step.

68. (Amended) The computer program product according to any one of claims 65 to 67, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that a test print request source is printed in the test printing.

69. (Amended) The control program control program according to any one of claims 65 to 67, wherein a name of a print server used in executing the test printing is printed in the test printing.

70. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a control program according to any one of claims 11, 24, 38, 51, and 65.

71. (Amended) A network system including a plurality of client units and a server unit, comprising:

unit managing means for managing a setup status of a driver for peripheral devices connected to the plurality of client units at the plurality of client units; transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send driver information corresponding to the plurality of client units to the plurality of client units, based on the setup status;

recognizing means for recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from the server unit; and

program managing means for installing on the plurality of client units driver information for controlling the peripheral devices, in response to receiving the driver information from the server unit, without requesting the server unit for driver information.

72. (Amended) A network system including a plurality of client units and an information processing unit, comprising:

determining means for determining client units on which to a driver is to be set up;

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send the determined client units an instruction to set up a driver for those client units as well as an instruction to have those client units execute test printing to check if setup of the driver for those client units has been completed normally;

receiving means for receiving a setup instruction, driver information, and a test printing instruction from the server unit;

program managing means for installing, on the determined client units, driver information for controlling peripheral devices in response to receiving the driver information from the server unit, without requesting the server unit for the driver information, and for issuing a command to instruct test printing based on the test printing instruction.

REMARKS

Claims 1-72 are presented for examination, with Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-56, 58-61, and 63-72 having been amended as to matters of form and/or to correct improper multiple-dependencies. Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with client units, comprising:

unit managing means for managing [the] a setup status of driver information for peripheral devices connected to the client units at [said] the client units; and transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send the driver information to the client units based on [said] the setup status.

2. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

selection indicating means for indicating selection of a second plurality of client units on which to install driver information from among a first plurality of client units; and determining means for determining client units on which to install driver information, based on [said] the setup information, from the second plurality of client units whose selection is indicated by said selection indicating means,

wherein said transmission controlling means controls operations to send the driver information to the client units determined by said determining means.

3. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 1, wherein [said] the setup status includes identification information for the driver information incorporated within [said] the client units, and

said transmission controlling means controls transmission operations to send [said] the driver information to one or more client units if driver information indicated by the identification [of said] information for the driver information is not in [said] the one or more client units.

4. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 2, wherein

[said] the setup status is collected by said information processing unit communicating with the client units.

6. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing

unit in communication with client units, comprising:

 a device managing step of managing [the] a setup status of driver information for peripheral devices connected to the client units at [said] the client units; and

 a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send the driver information to the client units based on [said] the setup status.

7. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 6, further

comprising:

 a selection indicating [steps] step to indicate selection of a second plurality of client units on which to install driver information from among a first plurality of client units; and

a determining step of determining client units on which to install driver information, based on [said] the setup information, from among the second plurality of client units whose selection is indicated [by] in said selection indicating step,

wherein said transmission controlling step controls operations to send the driver information to the client units determined [by] in said determining step.

8. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 6, wherein [said] the setup status includes identification information for the driver information incorporated within [said] the client units, and

 said transmission controlling step controls transmission operations to send [said] the driver information to one or more client units if driver information indicated by the identification [of said] information of the driver information is not in [said] the one ore more client units.

9. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 6, wherein [said] setup status is collected by [said] the information processing unit communicating with the client units.

11. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed at an information processing unit in communication with client units, wherein [said] the information processing [unit is caused to

perform] method comprises:

a unit managing step of managing [the] a setup status of driver information for peripheral devices connected to the client units at [said] the client units; and
a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send the driver information to the client units based on [said] the setup status.

12. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 11, wherein [said information processing is caused to] the method further [perform] comprises:

a selection indicating step of indicating selection of a second plurality of client units on which to install driver information from among a first plurality of client units; and
a determining step of determining client units on which to install driver information, based on [said] the setup information, from the second plurality of client units whose selection is indicated [by said] in the selection indicating step, and

wherein [said] the information processing unit is operated such that [said] the transmission controlling step controls operations to send the driver information to the client units determined [by said] in the determining step.

13. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 11, wherein [said] the setup status includes identification information for the driver information incorporated within [said] the client units, and

[said] the information processing unit is operated such that [said] the transmission controlling step controls transmission operations to send [said] the driver information to one or more client units if driver information indicated by the identification [of said] information for the driver information is not in [said] the one or more client units.

14. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 11, wherein [said] the information processing unit is operated such that [said] the setup status is collected by [said] the information processing unit communicating with the client units.

15. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 12, wherein [said] the information processing unit is operated such that said determining step determines a third plurality of client units on which install operations are to be performed.

16. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with client units, comprising:

determining means for determining a plurality of client units on which to install driver information; and

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to distribute driver information for controlling peripheral devices connected to [said] the plurality of client units to the plurality of clients determined by said determining means.

17. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 16, wherein [said] the driver information is [driver information] for a printer driver[,] and includes a test print instruction for [the] a printer on which [said] the driver information is [being] to be set up.

18. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 16, wherein [said] the driver information is set up based on [said] a setup instruction.

19. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 16, further comprising selecting means for manually selecting client units, wherein said determining means determines the client units selected by said selecting means.

20. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with a plurality of client units, comprising:

a determining step of determining a plurality of client units on which to install driver information; and

a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to distribute driver information for controlling peripheral devices connected to [said] the plurality of client units to the plurality of clients determined [by] in said determining step.

21. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 20, wherein [said] the driver information is [driver information] for a printer driver[,] and includes a

test print instruction for [the] a printer on which [said] the driver information is [being] to be set up.

22. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 20, wherein [said] the client units set up [said] with the driver information based on [said] a setup instruction.

23. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 20, further comprising a selecting step of manually selecting client units, wherein said determining step determines the client units selected [by] in said selecting [steps] step.

24. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with a plurality of client units, wherein the information processing [unit is caused to perform] method comprises:

a determining step of determining a plurality of clients on which to install driver information; and

a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to distribute driver information for controlling peripheral devices connected to [said] the plurality of client units to the plurality of clients determined [by] in said determining step.

25. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 24, wherein [said] the driver information is [driver information] for a printer driver[,] and includes a test print instruction for [the] a printer on which [said] the driver information is [being] to be set up.

26. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that [said] the client units are set up [said] with the driver information based on [said] a setup instruction.

27. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 24, wherein the information processing unit is caused to perform [the] a selecting step of manually selecting client units, and the information processing unit is operated such that said determining step determines the client units selected in said selecting step.

28. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, comprising:

recognizing means for recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from [said] the server unit; and

program managing means for installing on [said] client units driver information for controlling [said] the peripheral devices, in response to [recognizing said] recognition of a setup instruction without requesting [said] the server unit for a setup instruction.

29. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means controls [said] the client units so that the client units register identification information for peripheral devices in association with [said] the driver information.

30. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means controls an OS so that the OS recognizes identification information for peripheral devices in association with [said] the driver information via an application programming interface of the OS installed on [said] a client unit.

31. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means compares [the] identification information of [the] a driver indicated by [said] a setup instruction with [the] identification information of [the] existing drivers stored in [said] the client units, and, if the identification information of the driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction does not match the identification information of [said] the existing drivers, stores the driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction in [said] the client units.

32. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 28, wherein said program managing means updates the driver information in [said] the client units to [the] driver information indicated by [said] the setup instruction, if [the] information representing [the] a version of [the] existing drivers stored in [said] the client units [turns out to be] is newer than

[the] information representing [the] a driver version [of the driver] indicated by [said] the setup instruction.

33. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, comprising:

a recognizing step of recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from [said] the server unit; and

a program managing step of installing on [said] client units driver information for controlling [said] the peripheral devices in response to [recognizing said] recognition of a setup instruction without requesting [said] the server unit for a setup instruction.

34. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein said program managing step controls [said] the client units so that the client units register identification information for peripheral devices in association with [said] the driver information.

35. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein said program managing step controls an OS so that the OS recognizes identification information for peripheral devices in association with [said] the driver information via an application programming interface of the OS installed on [said] the client unit.

36. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein said program managing step compares [the] identification information of [the] a driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction with [the] identification information of [the] existing drivers stored in [said] the client units, and, if the identification information of the driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction does not match the identification information of [said] the existing drivers, stores the driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction in [said] the client units.

37. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein said program managing step updates the driver information in [said] the client units to [the] driver information indicated by [said] the setup instruction, if [the] information representing [the] a version of [the] existing drivers stored in [said] the client units [turns out to be] is newer than [the] information representing [the] a driver version [of the driver] indicated by [said] the setup instruction.

38. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, wherein the information processing [unit is caused to perform] method comprises:

a recognizing step of recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from [said] the server unit; and

a program managing step of installing on [said] client units driver information for controlling [said] the peripheral devices, in response to [recognizing said] recognition of a setup instruction without requesting [said] the server unit for a setup instruction.

39. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step controls [said] client units so that the client units register identification information for peripheral devices in association with [said] the driver information.

40. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step controls an OS so that the OS recognizes identification information for peripheral devices in association with [said] the driver information via an application programming interface of the OS installed on [said] the client unit.

41. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step compares [the] identification information of [the] a driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction with [the] identification information of [the] existing drivers stored in [said] the client units, and, if the identification information of the driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction does not match the identification information of [said] the existing drivers, stores the driver indicated by [said] the setup instruction in [said] the client units.

42. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 38, wherein said program managing step updates the driver information in [said] the client units to [the] driver information indicated by [said] the setup instruction, if [the] information representing [the] a version of [the] existing drivers stored in [said] the client units [turns out to be] is newer than [the] information representing [the] a driver version [of the driver] indicated by [said] the setup instruction.

TECHNICAL FIELD

43. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with peripheral devices and a server unit, comprising:

program managing means for setting up drivers based on setup instructions from [said] the server unit to [setup] set up drivers for [said] the peripheral devices,

wherein instructions are generated in response to [the] completion of [said setup] the set up to have [said] the peripheral devices execute test printing to check if the [setup] set up has been completed normally.

44. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 43, wherein said program managing means invokes installing means of an OS via an application programming interface of the OS installed on [said] a client unit, and the installing means of [said] the OS invoked via [said] the application programming interface introduces driver information into [said] the client unit.

45. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 43 or 44, wherein said program managing means is activated in response to a command from [said] the server unit.

46. (Amended) The information processing unit according to claim 45, wherein the command from [said] the server unit is described in [the] Simple Object Access Protocol standards.

47. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing unit in communication with a server unit and peripheral devices, comprising:

 a program managing step of setting up drivers based on instructions from [said] the server unit to [setup] set up drivers for [said] the peripheral devices; and

 [a] an instruction generation step of generating instructions, in response to [the] completion of [said setup] the set up, to have [said] the peripheral devices execute test printing to check if the [setup] set up has been completed normally.

48. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 47, wherein said program managing step invokes an installing [means] step of an OS via an application programming interface of the OS installed on [said] a client unit, and the installing step of [said] the OS invoked via [said] the application programming interface introduces driver information into [said] the client unit.

49. (Amended) The information processing method according to [claims] claim 47 [and] or 48, wherein said program managing step is started in response to a command from [said] the server unit.

50. (Amended) The information processing method according to [claims] claim 49, wherein the command from [said] the server unit is described in [the] Simple Object Access Protocol standards.

51. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with a server unit and peripheral devices, wherein the information processing [unit is caused to perform] method comprises:

a program managing step of setting up drivers based on instructions from [said]

the server unit to [setup] set up drivers for [said] the peripheral devices; and

[a] an instruction generation step of generating instructions, in response to [the] completion of [said setup] the set up, to have [said] the peripheral devices execute test printing to check if the [setup] set up has been completed normally.

52. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 51, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that said program managing step invokes an installing [means] step of an OS via an application programming interface of the OS

installed on [said] a client unit, and the installing step of [said] the OS invoked via [said] the application programming interface introduces driver information into [said] the client unit.

53. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 51 or 52, wherein said program managing step is performed in response to a command from [said] the server unit.

54. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to claim 53, wherein the command from [said] the server unit is described in [the] Simple Object Access Protocol standards.

55. (Amended) An information processing unit in communication with one or more client units, comprising:

determining means for determining client units on which a driver is to be set up; and

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send [said] the client units an instruction to set up a driver for [said] the client units [as well as] and an instruction to have [said] the client units execute test printing to check if the driver [setup] set up for [said] the client units has been completed normally.

56. (Amended) The information processing unit [in communication with a

plurality of client units] according to claim 55, wherein

 said information processing unit communicates with a plurality of client units, and
 said transmission controlling means [comprises transmission controlling means
for controlling] controls transmission operations to send [said] the plurality of client units an
instruction to install driver information as well as [said] the test print instruction.

58. (Amended) The information processing unit according to one of claims 55 to
57, wherein [the] a test print request source is printed in [said] the test printing.

59. (Amended) The information processing unit according to one of claims 55 to
[58] 57, wherein [the] a name of [the] a print server used in executing [said] the test printing is
printed in [said] the test printing.

60. (Amended) An information processing method for an information processing
unit in communication with one or more client units, comprising:

 a determining step of determining client units on which a driver is to be set up;
and
 a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send [said] the client
units an instruction to set up a driver for [said] the client units [as well as] and an instruction to
have [said] the client units execute test printing to check if the driver [setup] set up for [said] the
client units has been completed normally.

61. (Amended) The information processing method [for an information processing unit in communication with client units] according to claim 60, wherein [said] the information processing unit communicates with a plurality of client units, and

said transmission controlling step comprises [transmission controlling step of] controlling transmission operations to send [said] the plurality of client units an instruction to install driver information as well as [said] the test print instruction.

63. (Amended) The information processing method according to one of claims 60 to 62, wherein [the] a test print request source is printed in [said] the test printing.

64. (Amended) The information processing method according to one of claims 60 to [63] 62, wherein [the] a name of [the] a server used in executing [said] the test printing is printed in [said] the test printing.

65. (Amended) A computer program product embodying a control program for implementing an information processing method executed on an information processing unit in communication with one or more client units, wherein the information processing [unit is caused to perform] method comprises:

a determining step of determining client units on which a driver is to be set up; and

a transmission controlling step of controlling operations to send [said] the client units an instruction to set up a driver for [said] the client units [as well as] and an instruction to have [said] the client units execute test printing to check if the driver [setup] set up for [said] the client units has been completed normally.

66. (Amended) The [information processing] computer program product according to claim 65, wherein [said] the information processing unit communicates with a plurality of client units, and said transmission controlling [means executes on the information processing unit a transmission controlling step of controlling] step controls transmission operations to send [said] the plurality of client units an instruction to install driver information as well as [said] the test printing instruction.

67. (Amended) The [information processing] computer program product according to claim 65, wherein the [information processing unit is caused to perform] method further comprises a selecting step of manually selecting client units, and the information processing unit is operated such that said determining step determines [said] the client units manually selected [by] in said selecting step.

68. (Amended) The [control] computer program product according to any one of claims 65 to 67, wherein the information processing unit is operated such that [the] a test print

request source is printed in [said] the test printing.

69. (Amended) The control program control program according to any one of claims 65 to [68] 67, wherein [the] a name of [the] a print server used in executing [said] the test printing is printed in [said] the test printing.

70. (Amended) [The] A computer-readable storage medium storing [the] a control program according to any one of claims [11 to 15, or claims 24 to 47, or claims 38 to 42, or claims 51 to 54, or claims 65 to 69] 11, 24, 38, 51, and 65.

71. (Amended) A network system including a plurality of client units and a server unit, comprising:

unit managing means for managing [the] a setup status of a driver for peripheral devices connected to the plurality of client units at [said] the plurality of client units;

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send [the] driver information corresponding to [said] the plurality of client units to the plurality of client units, based on [said] the setup status;

recognizing means for recognizing a setup instruction and driver information from [said] the server unit; and

program managing means for installing on [said] the plurality of client units driver information for controlling [said] the peripheral devices, in response to receiving [said] the

driver information from [said] the server unit, without requesting [said] the server unit for [the] driver information.

72. (Amended) A network system including a plurality of client units and an information processing unit, comprising:

determining means for determining client units on which to a driver is to be set up;

transmission controlling means for controlling operations to send [said] the determined client units an instruction to set up a driver for [said] those client units as well as an instruction to have [said] those client units execute test printing to check if setup of the driver [setup] for [said] those client units has been completed normally;

receiving means for receiving [the] a setup instruction, [the] driver information, and [said] a test printing instruction from [said] the server unit;

program managing means for installing, on [said] the determined client units, driver information for controlling [said] peripheral devices in response to receiving [said] the driver information from [said] the server unit, without requesting [said] the server unit for the driver information, and for issuing a command to instruct test printing based on [said] the test printing instruction.